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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORTTOPIC Finstorwalde AirfieldEVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 20 April 1951REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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 No Change In Class. ☐
☐ Declassified
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1. On 14 March 1951, between 1 and 2 p.m., five twin-engine low-wing 25X1
 monoplanes with double rudder assemblies were parked in front of the
 second hangar from the west at Finsterwalde ("52/A 15") airfield.
 Three twin-engine low-wing monoplanes with double rudder assemblies
 and four twin-engine semi-high-wing monoplanes, with nose wheels and
 double rudder assemblies practiced flying. * The semi-high-wing mono-
 planes had a window on both sides of the fuselage and two vertical
 white stripes on their rudder assemblies beneath the Soviet star. Local
 flying was continually practiced. There was a strong wind from the west
 and 3/10 degrees of cloudiness. The crews were not changed.

2. On 20 March, the field was observed from its eastern edge between 3 and
 9 a.m. Two twin-engine low-wing monoplanes, with double rudder assemblies
 and a twin-engine, semi-high-wing monoplane with a nose wheel and double
 rudder assembly were being towed out of the westernmost hangar. Local
 flying was practiced in clear visibility with strong winds from the south-
 west.

3. a radio truck with a radio 25X1
 mast next to it has been seen in a meadow on the northeastern edge of
 Droessigk since 12 March 1951. The radio mast was allegedly located in the
 extension of the runway, 3 km from its western end. ** 25X1

4. a municipal architect was 25X1
 called in to see the town-mayor for discussions concerning the removal of
 three houses on the edge of the airfield, the removal of the houses came
 in an order of the town commandant who was quartered at the Hotel Viktoria
 on Sonnenwalder Strasse. The airfield commander had allegedly complained
 to the town commandant that one of his planes had to make an emergency
 landing one night because the pilot was not aware of the houses on the edge
 of the field. The aircraft was allegedly completely destroyed and as a 25X1
 result three men of the crew were killed. The municipal architect
 proposal that the houses not be removed was accepted but that they
 be provided with red obstacle lights.

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* Comment. The twin-engine monoplanes are probably PE-2s. The twin-engine semi-high-wing monoplanes are B-25s. The presence of this type of aircraft was previously reported

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 At least four planes of this type have been seen in Finsterwalde. It has not been determined whether this is the total number of B-25s stationed at the field. It is not known whether bomber units in the Soviet Zone of Germany are to be re-equipped with B-25s or whether B-25s are additionally assigned to bomber units. It is believed that B-25s are used by bomber pilots for refresher training on aircraft fitted with a nose wheel.

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** Comment. According to an available map, the distance from the western end of the runway is 3,600 meters. The radio installation is probably a landing beacon.

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